



General Assembly

## ***Substitute Bill No. 229***

***February Session, 2014***



### ***AN ACT CONCERNING SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) For purposes of this  
2 section and sections 2 to 4, inclusive, of this act, "intramural or  
3 interscholastic athletics" shall include any activity sponsored by a  
4 school or local education agency, as defined in section 10-15f of the  
5 general statutes, or an organization sanctioned by the local education  
6 agency that involves any athletic contest, practice, scrimmage,  
7 competition, demonstration, display or club activity.

8       (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school  
9 year thereafter, the State Board of Education, in consultation with (1)  
10 the Commissioner of Public Health, (2) the governing authority for  
11 intramural and interscholastic athletics, (3) an appropriate  
12 organization representing licensed athletic trainers, and (4) an  
13 organization representing county medical associations, shall develop  
14 or approve a sudden cardiac arrest awareness education program for  
15 use by local and regional boards of education. Such program shall be  
16 published on the State Board of Education's Internet web site and shall  
17 include: (A) The warning signs and symptoms associated with a  
18 sudden cardiac arrest, (B) the risks associated with continuing to  
19 engage in intramural or interscholastic athletics after exhibiting such  
20 warning signs and symptoms, (C) the means of obtaining proper

21 medical treatment for a person suspected of experiencing a sudden  
22 cardiac arrest, and (D) the proper method of allowing a student who  
23 has experienced a sudden cardiac arrest to return to intramural or  
24 interscholastic athletics. When developing or approving such program,  
25 the State Board of Education may utilize existing materials developed  
26 by organizations such as Simon's Fund.

27 (c) (1) On or before July 1, 2015, the State Board of Education, in  
28 consultation with the organizations described in subdivisions (1) to (4),  
29 inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section, shall develop and approve  
30 an informed consent form to distribute to the parents and legal  
31 guardians of students involved in intramural or interscholastic  
32 athletics regarding sudden cardiac arrest. Such informed consent form  
33 shall include, at a minimum, (A) a summary of the sudden cardiac  
34 arrest awareness education program described in subsection (b) of this  
35 section, and (B) a summary of the applicable local or regional board of  
36 education's policies regarding sudden cardiac arrests.

37 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school  
38 year thereafter, any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit  
39 by the State Board of Education and is a coach of intramural or  
40 interscholastic athletics shall, prior to commencing the coaching  
41 assignment for the season of such school athletics, provide each  
42 participating student's parent or legal guardian with a copy of the  
43 informed consent form described in subdivision (1) of this subsection  
44 and obtain such parent's or legal guardian's signature, attesting to the  
45 fact that such parent or legal guardian has received a copy of such  
46 form and authorizes the student to participate in the intramural or  
47 interscholastic athletics.

48 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) For the school year  
49 commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, any person  
50 who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of  
51 Education and is a coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics shall  
52 annually review the program developed or approved pursuant to  
53 subsection (b) of section 1 of this act, prior to commencing the

54 coaching assignment for the season of such intramural or  
55 interscholastic athletics.

56 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) (1) The coach of any  
57 intramural or interscholastic athletics shall immediately remove a  
58 student from participating in any intramural or interscholastic athletics  
59 who is observed to exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent  
60 with a sudden cardiac arrest.

61 (2) The coach shall not permit such student to participate in any  
62 intramural or interscholastic athletics until such student receives  
63 written clearance to participate in such intramural or interscholastic  
64 athletics from a licensed health care professional.

65 (b) For purposes of this section, "licensed health care professional"  
66 means a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general  
67 statutes, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the  
68 general statutes, or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed  
69 pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes.

70 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) The State Board of Education  
71 may revoke the coaching permit, in accordance with the provisions of  
72 subsection (i) of section 10-145b of the general statutes, of any coach  
73 found to be in violation of any of the provisions of sections 2 and 3 of  
74 this act.

75 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) Any person who holds or is  
76 issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education and is a  
77 coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics shall be immune from  
78 suit and liability, both personally and in his or her official capacity, for  
79 any actions or omissions pursuant to the provisions of sections 1 to 3,  
80 inclusive, of this act, unless the actions or omissions of such person  
81 constitute wilful misconduct, gross negligence or recklessness.

<p>This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:</p>
--

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section

**KID**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*